

# **IPM**

## **Regional Integrated Pest Management Competitive Grants Program**

### **Western Region**

## **Guidelines for Application Preparation and Submission Fiscal Year 2004**

Land-Grant University System and  
Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

### **Due Dates:**

**Research Applications: December 2, 2003**

**Extension Applications and Joint Research-Extension Applications:  
December 16, 2003**

**LAND-GRANT UNIVERSITY SYSTEM AND COOPERATIVE STATE RESEARCH,  
EDUCATION, AND EXTENSION SERVICE; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
REGIONAL INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT COMPETITIVE GRANTS  
PROGRAM – WESTERN REGION**

**INITIAL ANNOUNCEMENT**

**CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE:** Projects awarded under Section 3(d) of the Smith-Lever Act of May 8, 1914, ch. 79, 38 Stat. 372, 7 U.S.C. 341 et seq. can be found in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under 10.500. Projects awarded under Section 2(c)(1)(B) of the Act of August 4, 1965, Public Law No. 89-106, as amended (7 U.S.C. 450i (c)(1)(B)) can be found in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under 10.200.

**DATES:** Applications for research projects must be received by close of business (COB) on December 2, 2003 (5:00 p.m. Pacific Time). Applications for extension projects and joint research-extension projects must be received by COB on December 16, 2003 (5:00 p.m. Pacific Time). Any applications received after the applicable deadline will not be considered for funding. Comments regarding this Request for Applications (RFA) are requested within six months from the issuance of this notice. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

**STAKEHOLDER INPUT:** The Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES), USDA is requesting comments regarding this RFA from any interested party. These comments will be considered in the development of the next RFA for the program. Such comments will be used to meet the requirements of section 103(c)(2) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7613(c)(2)). This section requires the Secretary to solicit and consider input on a current RFA from persons who conduct or use agricultural research, education and extension for use in formulating future RFAs for competitive programs. Comments should be submitted by the deadline noted in the **DATES** portion of this notice.

Written stakeholder comments should be submitted by mail to: Policy and Program Liaison Staff; Office of Extramural Programs; Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service; U.S. Department of Agriculture; STOP 2299; 1400 Independence Avenue, SW; Washington, DC 20250-2299, or via e-mail to: [RFP-OEP@csrees.usda.gov](mailto:RFP-OEP@csrees.usda.gov).

(This e-mail address is intended only for receiving comments regarding this RFA, and not for requesting information or forms.) In your comments, please state that you are responding to the FY 2004 Regional Integrated Pest Management Competitive Grants Program RFA for the Western Region.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:** CSREES requests applications for the Regional Integrated Pest Management Competitive Grants Program for fiscal year (FY) 2004 to support the continuum of research and extension efforts needed to increase the implementation of integrated pest management (IPM) methods. The Regional IPM Competitive Grants Program supports projects that develop individual pest control tactics, integrate individual tactics into an IPM system, and develop and implement extension education programs. The program is administered by the land-grant university system's four regions (North Central, Northeastern, Southern, Western) in

partnership with CSREES. In FY 2004, CSREES anticipates that approximately \$765,000 will be available for support of the Regional IPM Competitive Grants Program – Western Region (W-IPM). Of this amount, approximately \$495,000 is expected to be available for research projects, \$70,000 for extension projects, and \$200,000 for joint research-extension projects.

This notice identifies the objectives for W-IPM projects, the eligibility criteria for projects and applicants, and the application forms and associated instructions needed to apply for a W-IPM grant.

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## **PART I—FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION**

### **A. Legislative Authority and Background**

Authority for the funding of research projects is contained in Section 2(c)(1)(B) of the Act of August 4, 1965, Public Law No. 89-106, as amended (7 U.S.C. 450i (c)(1)(B)). Authority for the funding of extension projects is contained in Section 3(d) of the Smith-Lever Act of May 8, 1914, ch. 79, 38 Stat. 372, 7 U.S.C. 341 et seq. For combined effort applications, separate awards will be executed for P.L. 89-106 and Smith-Lever funds.

The Regional IPM Competitive Grants Program supports the continuum of research and extension efforts needed to increase the implementation of IPM methods. The Regional IPM Competitive Grants Program supports projects that develop individual pest control tactics, integrate individual tactics into an IPM system, and develop and implement extension and education programs. The program is administered by the land-grant university system's four regions (North Central, Northeastern, Southern, Western) in partnership with CSREES.

The goal of the Regional IPM Competitive Grants Program is to provide knowledge and information needed for the implementation of IPM methods that: 1) safeguard human health and the environment, and 2) increase the range of benefits achieved by those who use IPM methods. The Regional IPM Competitive Grants Program contributes to the achievement of this goal by increasing the supply and dissemination of IPM knowledge and by enhancing collaboration among stakeholders. It is recognized that the specific needs of each region vary, and thus specific program priorities will vary among the regions.

### **B. Purpose and Priorities**

The Western Region is characterized by a diversity of cropping systems in close proximity to vulnerable ecosystems and natural resources. Public concerns about water use and quality, worker safety, and public health as it relates to pesticide use provide impetus to develop and implement regional IPM strategies.

The goals of the W-IPM include development of long-term sustainable, profitable, and environmentally sound pest management systems for agriculture; promotion of reduced risk pest management practices; and protection and conservation of ecosystem quality and diversity.

Previously funded Western Region IPM projects include:

- The influence of climates on London rocket and beet leafhoppers and their role in curly top infection of chile in New Mexico;
- Integrated management of *Centaurea maculosa* (Spotted Knapweed) in the western United States while utilizing its allelochemical properties as an ecologically benign herbicide;
- Refining iron-enhanced biological control of fire blight;
- Integrating biological control in the management of Solanaceous weeds;
- Electronic delivery of IPM and decision support tools for field use;
- Horticultural advisor outreach to community groups;
- Regional internet and GIS-Based Multiple Pest Forecasting and Risk Management System;

- Economic and technical guidelines for control of ground squirrels in alfalfa; and
- Seed transmission and ecology of *Xanthomonas campestris* on onion.

In FY 2004, the W-IPM will support three types of projects: research, extension, and joint research-extension (see Part II, C., Project Types, for more information). Areas of emphasis have been identified for W-IPM research projects and extension projects. Applications must involve one of the following areas of emphasis or a combination of them, as appropriate. All of the following areas of emphasis have equal priority:

### **1. Research Projects**

- (a) Developing an effective tactic for a production management system for a pest problem that currently limits production efficiency and is generally recognized by the user community as a key priority;
- (b) Addressing the agro-ecosystem extending beyond a single commodity and addressing multiple cycles of pests over seasons and/or multiple species and complexes;
- (c) Promoting biological diversity in pest management systems and the integration of multiple pest management tactics;
- (d) Identifying linkages with components of existing or emerging pest management systems;
- (e) Demonstrating the economic and environmental benefits of IPM strategies;
- (f) Identifying the constraints to greater adoption of IPM strategies and developing approaches to overcome these constraints;
- (g) Promoting cooperative efforts across appropriate disciplines, with linkages between research and extension efforts;
- (h) Elucidating the relationship of ecological principles to life systems of pests and the functioning of the agro-ecosystem as a whole; and
- (i) Integrating plant and animal production in an IPM system.

### **2. Extension Projects**

- (a) Providing IPM training and education to individuals involved with the production, processing, storage, transporting, and marketing of food and agricultural commodities; and
- (b) Developing educational materials and information delivery systems that provide IPM personnel in the public and private sectors with timely, state-of-the-art information about effective IPM strategies.

## **PART II—AWARD INFORMATION**

### **A. Available Funding**

There is no commitment by USDA to fund any particular application or to make a specific number of awards. In FY 2004, CSREES anticipates that approximately \$765,000 will be available for support of the W-IPM. Of this amount, approximately \$495,000 is expected to be available for research projects, \$70,000 for extension projects, and \$200,000 for joint research-extension projects.

Project periods should be sufficient to achieve objectives without exceeding three (3) years. The budget for a research project shall not exceed \$100,000 per year. The budget for an extension project shall not exceed \$50,000 per year. The budget for a joint research-extension project shall not exceed \$50,000 per year.

### **B. Types of Applications**

In FY 2004, W-IPM applications may be submitted as one of the following types of requests:

#### **1. New Application**

This is a project application that has not been previously submitted to the W-IPM. All new applications will be reviewed competitively using the selection process and evaluation criteria described in Part V.

#### **2. Renewal Application**

This is a project application that requests additional funding for a project beyond the period approved in an original or amended award. Renewal applications must be received by the relevant due dates, will be evaluated in competition with other pending applications in appropriate areas to which they are assigned, and will be reviewed according to the same evaluation criteria as new applications.

#### **3. Resubmitted Application**

This is an application that had previously been submitted to the W-IPM but was not funded. Project Directors (PDs) must respond to the previous review panel summary (see Part IV, B., 5., Response to Previous Review). Resubmitted applications must be received by the relevant due dates, will be evaluated in competition with other pending applications in appropriate areas to which they are assigned, and will be reviewed according to the same evaluation criteria as new applications.

#### **4. Resubmitted Renewal Application**

This is a project application that requests additional funding for a project beyond the period approved in the original award. In addition, this is an application that had previously been submitted for renewal to the W-IPM but was not approved. Therefore, PDs must respond to the previous review panel summary as required under Part IV, B., 5., Response to Previous Review. Resubmitted renewal applications must be received by the relevant due dates, will be evaluated in competition with other pending applications in appropriate areas to which they are assigned, and will be reviewed according to the same evaluation criteria as new applications.

## **C. Project Types**

The W-IPM solicits applications for the following three types of projects in FY 2004. Applicants must indicate the type of project they are proposing and meet the appropriate submission deadline.

### **1. Research**

This funding category develops the research base needed for the construction of comprehensive pest management systems that have a strong likelihood of contributing to ongoing IPM implementation efforts. Research may be proposed to develop individual tactics needed for pest management systems (e.g., bio-control, cultural control, host resistance) or to increase the understanding of how interactions among tactics alter the effectiveness of pest management systems. The experimental approach should emphasize field-scale experiments over multiple seasons and/or locations where appropriate. Applications should clearly demonstrate how the tactic or IPM system, once developed, could be incorporated into an existing production system.

Research applications may be submitted for a duration of up to three years, with a maximum funding level of \$100,000 per year. Each PD is allowed to submit one application as the lead PD, and one as a co-PD in the research category. They may also submit one to either the extension or joint research-extension categories (see 2. and 3. of this section).

### **2. Extension**

This funding category enhances outreach efforts that support the wide-scale implementation of IPM methods and maximize opportunities to build strategic alliances with industry and user groups to expand their active participation in increasing the adoption of IPM methods. Projects may be proposed to develop educational materials and information delivery systems needed for outreach efforts, conduct field-scale or on-farm demonstrations, or deliver IPM education and training. A research component is not a required element of extension applications, but the research base should be documented.

Extension applications may be submitted for a duration of up to three years, with a maximum funding level of \$50,000 per year. Each PD is allowed to submit one application to either the extension category or joint research-extension category (see 3. of this section). They also may submit one application as the lead PD, and one as a co-PD in the research category (see 1. of this section).

### **3. Joint Research-Extension**

This funding category combines research and extension activities (as described in 1. and 2. of this section). Joint research-extension projects validate pest management systems, introduce new pest management tactics into local production systems, and deliver these systems to producers and their advisors through IPM education and training programs. The project team should include faculty with appointments in research and extension.

Joint research-extension applications may be submitted for a duration of up to three years, with a maximum funding level of \$50,000 per year. Each PD is allowed to submit one application to either the joint research-extension category or extension category (see 2. of this section). They also may submit one application as the lead PD, and one as a co-PD in the research category (see 1. of this section).





## **PART III—ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION**

### **A. Eligible Applicants**

Eligibility for research projects includes: state agricultural experiment stations, land-grant colleges and universities, research foundations established by land-grant colleges and universities, colleges and universities receiving funds under the Act of October 10, 1962 (16 U.S.C. 582a et seq.), and accredited schools or colleges of veterinary medicine. Eligibility for extension projects is limited to land-grant colleges and universities. Award recipients may subcontract to organizations not eligible to apply, provided such organizations are necessary for the conduct of the project.

Research and extension staff from other regions as well as staff from other state and federal agencies are encouraged to participate as members of the project team, but cannot serve as PDs.

### **B. Cost Sharing or Matching**

There are no matching requirements associated with the Regional IPM Competitive Grants Program and matching resources will not be factored into the review process as evaluation criteria.

## **PART IV—APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION**

### **A. Address to Request Application Package**

Program application materials are available at the following CSREES web site: <http://www.ree.usda.gov/agsys/ipm/forms.htm>. Copies of this RFA are available at [www.ucbugdr.ucr.edu](http://www.ucbugdr.ucr.edu). If you do not have access to the web page or have trouble downloading material and you would like hard copies of the forms, you may contact Dr. Nick C. Toscano, W-IPM Grants Manager, at (909) 787-5826.

### **B. Content and Form of Application Submission**

Applications should be prepared following the guidelines and the instructions below. Each application must contain the following elements in the order indicated:

#### **1. General**

Use the following guidelines to prepare an application. Proper preparation of applications will assist reviewers in evaluating the merits of each application in a systematic, consistent fashion.

- (a) Prepare the application on only one side of the page using standard size (8 1/2" x 11") white paper with one-inch margins, typed or word-processed using no type smaller than 12-point font, and double-spaced. Use an easily readable font face (e.g., Geneva, Helvetica, Times Roman), and number each page sequentially.
- (b) Staple the application in the upper left-hand corner. Do not bind. An original and ten (10) copies of the application (11 total) must be submitted in one package.
- (c) Include original illustrations (photographs, color prints, etc.) in all copies of the application to prevent loss of meaning through poor quality reproduction.
- (d) The contents of the application should be assembled in the following order:

- (1) Proposal Cover Page (Form CSREES-2002)
- (2) Table of Contents
- (3) Project Summary (Form CSREES-2003)
- (4) Response to Previous Review
- (5) Project Description
- (6) References
- (7) Appendices to Project Description
- (8) Key Personnel
- (9) Collaborative Arrangements (including letters of support)
- (10) Conflict-of-Interest List (Form CSREES-2007)
- (11) Budget (Form CSREES-2004 or CSREES-55, as appropriate)
- (12) Budget Narrative
- (13) Current and Pending Support (Form CSREES-2005)
- (14) Assurance Statement(s) (Form CSREES-2008)
- (15) Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (Form CSREES-2006)

- (16) Page B, Proposal Cover Page (Form CSREES-2002), Personal Data on Project Director

## **2. Proposal Cover Page (Form CSREES-2002)**

### **(a) Page A**

Each copy of each grant application must contain a Proposal Cover Page, Form CSREES-2002. One copy of the application, preferably the original, must contain the pen-and-ink signature(s) of the proposing PDs and the authorized organizational representative (AOR), the individual who possesses the necessary authority to commit the organization's time and other relevant resources to the project. If there are more than three co-PDs for an application, please list additional co-PDs on a separate sheet of paper (with appropriate information and signatures) and attach to the Proposal Cover Page (Form CSREES-2002). Any proposed PD or co-PD whose signature does not appear on Form CSREES-2002 or attached additional sheets will not be listed on any resulting grant award. Complete both signature blocks located at the bottom of the Proposal Cover Page form. Please note that Form CSREES-2002 is comprised of two parts - Page A, which is the Proposal Cover Page, and Page B, which is the Personal Data on Project Director.

Form CSREES-2002 serves as a source document for the CSREES grant database; it is therefore important that it be accurately completed in its entirety, especially the e-mail addresses requested in Blocks 4.c. and 18.c. However, the following items are highlighted as having a high potential for errors or misinterpretations:

**(1) Type of Performing Organization (Block 6.a. and 6.b.).** For Block 6.a., a check should be placed in the appropriate box to identify the type of organization that is the legal recipient named in Block 1. Only one box should be checked. For Block 6.b., please check as many boxes that apply to the affiliation of the PD listed in Block 16.

**(2) Title of Proposed Project (Block 7.).** The title of the project must be brief (140 character maximum, including spaces), yet represent the major thrust of the effort being proposed. Project titles are read by a variety of nonscientific people; therefore, highly technical words or phraseology should be avoided where possible. In addition, introductory phrases such as "investigation of," "research on," "education for," or "outreach that" should not be used.

**(3) Type of Request (Block 14.).** Check the block for New, Renewal, Resubmitted, or Resubmitted Renewal.

**(4) Project Director (PD) (Blocks 16.-19.).** Blocks 16.-18. are used to identify the PD and Block 19. to identify co-PDs. If needed, additional co-PDs may be listed on a separate sheet of paper and attached to Form CSREES-2002, the Proposal Cover Page, with the applicable co-PD information and signatures. Listing multiple co-PDs, beyond those required for genuine collaboration, is discouraged.

**(5) Other Possible Sponsors (Block 21.).** List the names or acronyms of all other public or private sponsors including other agencies within USDA to which your application has been or might be sent. In the event you decide to send your application to another organization or agency at a later date, you must inform the identified CSREES program contact as soon as practicable. Submitting your application to other potential sponsors

will not prejudice its review by CSREES; however, submitting the same (i.e., duplicate) application to another CSREES program is not permissible.

### **(b) Page B**

Page B should be submitted only with the original signature copy of the application and should be placed as the last page of the original copy of the application. This page contains personal data on the PD(s). CSREES requests this information in order to monitor the operation of its review and awards processes. This page will not be duplicated or used during the review process. Please note that failure to submit this information will in no way affect consideration of your application.

### **3. Table of Contents**

For consistency and ease in locating information, each application must contain a detailed Table of Contents immediately following the Proposal Cover Page. The Table of Contents should contain page numbers for each component of the application. Page numbering should begin with the first page of the Project Description.

### **4. Project Summary (Form CSREES-2003)**

The application must contain a Project Summary, Form CSREES-2003. The summary should be approximately 250 words, contained within the box, placed immediately after the Table of Contents, and not numbered. It should be self-contained and should briefly describe the problem or opportunity, project objectives, and the effort in simple terms that can be understood by a diverse audience including the general public, university personnel, various public and private organizations, and budget staff. The Project Summary should include the title of the project and no other identifiers such as PD(s) names or institutions. The project summary must indicate the dollar amount requested at the beginning, and which category of funding the authors are seeking resources from: (a) research only, (b) extension only, or (c) joint research-extension. For the joint research-extension category, the project summary statement must indicate how many dollars are being requested from each respective source (Smith-Lever versus P.L. 89-106). The importance of a concise, informative Project Summary cannot be overemphasized. If there are more than three co-PDs for an application, please list additional co-PDs on a separate sheet of paper (with appropriate information) and attach to the Project Summary (Form CSREES-2003).

### **5. Response to Previous Review**

This requirement only applies to "Resubmitted Applications" and "Resubmitted Renewal Applications", as described under Part II, B., Types of Applications. PDs must include a summary that clearly states how they responded (revisions, rebuttals, etc.) to the previous review panel's suggestions. This summary should be no more than one page, titled "RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS REVIEW," and placed directly after the Project Summary, Form CSREES-2003.

### **6. Project Description**

The Project Description should not exceed fifteen (15) pages total. This restriction has been established to ensure fair and equitable competition. The Project Description must include all of the following:

#### **(a) Problem, Background and Justification**

Describe why current technologies are inadequate and how the proposed approach will help improve the pest management system. Address the specific needs identified in this solicitation and identify the relative importance of the strategy(ies) to an improved pest management system in the region/area, and the potential applicability of the proposed approach to other production regions.

**(b) Literature Review**

Provide a review of ongoing or completed work (local/regional/national) that is relevant.

**(c) Objectives**

Provide clear, concise, complete, and logically arranged statement(s) of the specific aims of the proposed effort along with details of the anticipated accomplishments.

**(d) Approach and Procedures**

Describe how each of the stated objectives will be reached. Include appropriate experimental design and experimental units, reference methods to be used and appropriate statistical analysis. Include a timetable for the start and completion of each phase of the project. For a joint research-extension application, describe how the project will be managed, particularly how coordination between research and extension components will be achieved and maintained. Provide detailed plans for evaluation of the project and indicate how successful impacts and outcomes will be measured. Include specific evaluation objectives with specific impact indicators (e.g., adoption rate, number of acres impacted, pesticide use, profitability) that will be used to measure the success of the project.

**(e) Cooperation and Institutional Units Involved**

Identify each institutional unit contributing to the project. Identify each State in a multiple-State application and designate the lead State. When appropriate, the project should be coordinated with the efforts of other State and/or national programs. Clearly define the roles and responsibilities of each institutional unit of the project team, if applicable.

**7. References**

All references to works cited should be complete, include titles and all co-authors, and conform to an acceptable journal format.

**8. Appendices to Project Description**

Appendices to the Project Description are allowed if they are directly germane to the proposed project. The addition of appendices should not be used to circumvent the page limitation.

**9. Key Personnel**

The following should be included, as applicable:

- (a) The roles and responsibilities of each PD and/or collaborator should be clearly described; and
- (b) A current curriculum vitae of the PD and each co-PD, senior associate, and other professional personnel. This section should include vitae of all key persons who are expected to work on the project, whether or not CSREES funds are sought for their support. The vitae should

be limited to two pages each in length, excluding publications listings. The vitae should include a presentation of academic and research credentials, as applicable, e.g., earned degrees, teaching experience, employment history, professional activities, honors and awards, and grants received. A chronological list of all publications in refereed journals during the past four years, including those in press, must be provided for each project member for whom a curriculum vitae is provided. Also list only those non-refereed technical publications that have relevance to the proposed project. All authors should be listed in the same order as they appear on each paper cited, along with the title and complete reference as these usually appear in journals.

## **10. Collaborative Arrangements**

If it will be necessary to enter into formal consulting, collaborative, or subcontractual arrangements with others, such arrangements should be fully explained and justified. If the consultant(s) or collaborator(s) are known at the time of application, vitae or resume should be provided. In addition, evidence (e.g., letter of support) should be provided that the collaborators involved have agreed to render these services. The applicant also will be required to provide additional information on consultants and collaborators in the budget portion of the application.

## **11. Conflict-of-Interest List (Form CSREES-2007)**

A Conflict-of-Interest List, Form CSREES-2007, must be provided for all individuals who have submitted vitae. Each Form CSREES-2007 should list alphabetically, by the last names, the full names of the individuals in the following categories: (a) all co-authors on publications within the past four years, including pending publications and submissions; (b) all collaborators on projects within the past four years, including current and planned collaborations; (c) all thesis or postdoctoral advisees/advisors within the past four years; and (d) all persons in your field with whom you have had a consulting or financial arrangement within the past four years, who stand to gain by seeing the project funded. This form is necessary to assist program staff in excluding from application review those individuals who have conflicts of interest with the personnel in the grant application. The program contact must be informed of any additional conflicts of interest that arise after the application is submitted.

## **12. Budget**

### **(a) Budget Form (Form CSREES-2004 or CSREES-55)**

Each application must include a detailed Budget Form for each year of requested support and a Budget Form that summarizes total project costs for the duration of the project. The form you use depends on which type of project you are proposing (see Part I, Section H., Project Types). NOTE: Use the standard Budget Form (CSREES-2004) to propose research or extension projects; use the modified Budget Form (CSREES-55) to propose joint research-extension projects.

For joint research-extension applications, applicants should distinguish whether the funds will be used for research or extension activities in the appropriate columns of the Budget Form. The budget instructions included in the CSREES Application Forms Package are applicable to both budget forms. The budget forms may be reproduced as needed. Funds may be requested under any of the categories listed on the form, provided that the item or service for which support is requested is allowable under the authorizing legislation, the applicable statutes, regulations, and Federal cost principles, and these program guidelines, and can be justified as necessary for the

successful conduct of the proposed project. Applicants must include a budget narrative to justify their budget requests (see (b), below, for details).

### **(b) Budget Narrative**

A detailed budget narrative must be included for research and extension activities, as appropriate. All budget categories, with the exception of indirect costs, for which support is requested must be individually listed (with costs) in the same order as the budget and justified on a separate sheet of paper and placed immediately behind the Budget Form. If consulting, collaborative, or sub-contractual arrangements are included in the application, these arrangements should be fully explained and justified. The rate of pay for any consultant must be included, if known at the time of application. Letters of intent or other evidence should be provided to show that collaborators involved have agreed to participate. A proposed statement of work, vita, and a budget for each arrangement involving the transfer of substantive programmatic work or the provision of financial assistance to a third party must be supplied. In multi-state applications, a budget and budget narrative must be included for each state involved. The lead state and each participating state must be identified.

### **(c) Indirect Costs**

See Part IV, D., for indirect cost restrictions.

## **13. Current and Pending Support (Form CSREES-2005)**

All applications must contain Form CSREES-2005 listing other current public or private support (including in-house support) to which personnel (i.e., individuals submitting vitae in response to 9(b) of this part) identified in the application have committed portions of their time, whether or not salary support for person(s) involved is included in the budget. Please follow the instructions provided on this form. Concurrent submission of identical or similar applications to the possible sponsors will not prejudice application review or evaluation by the CSREES. However, an application that duplicates or overlaps substantially with an application already reviewed and funded (or to be funded) by another organization or agency will not be funded under this program. Please note that the project being proposed should be included in the Pending section of the form.

## **14. Assurance Statement(s) (Form CSREES-2008)**

A number of situations encountered in the conduct of projects require special assurances, supporting documentation, etc., before funding can be approved for the project. In addition to any other situation that may exist with regard to a particular project, applications involving any of the following elements must comply with the additional requirement, as applicable.

### **(a) Recombinant DNA or RNA Research**

As stated in 7 CFR Part 3015.205 (b)(3), all key personnel identified in the application and all endorsing officials of the proposing organization are required to comply with the guidelines established by the National Institutes of Health entitled, "Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules," as revised. If your project proposes to use recombinant DNA or RNA techniques, you must so indicate by checking the "yes" box in Block 20. of Form CSREES-2002 (the Proposal Cover Page) and by completing Section A of Form CSREES-2008.



For applicable applications recommended for funding, Institutional Biosafety Committee approval is required before CSREES funds will be released. Please refer to the application forms for further instructions.

**(b) Animal Care**

Responsibility for the humane care and treatment of live vertebrate animals used in any grant project supported with funds provided by CSREES rests with the performing organization. Where a project involves the use of living vertebrate animals for experimental purposes, all key personnel identified in an application and all endorsing officials of the proposing organization are required to comply with the applicable provisions of the Animal Welfare Act of 1966, as amended (7 U.S.C. 2131 et seq.), and the regulations promulgated thereunder by the Secretary in 9 CFR Parts 1, 2, 3, and 4 pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of these animals. If your project will involve these animals, you should check "yes" in Block 20. of Form CSREES-2002 and complete Section B of Form CSREES-2008. In the event a project involving the use of live vertebrate animals results in a grant award, funds will be released only after the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee has approved the project. Please refer to the application forms for further instructions.

**(c) Protection of Human Subjects**

Responsibility for safeguarding the rights and welfare of human subjects used in any grant project supported with funds provided by CSREES rests with the performing organization. Guidance on this issue is contained in the National Research Act, Pub. L. No. 93-348, as amended, and implementing regulations promulgated by the Department under 7 CFR Part 1c. If you propose to use human subjects in your project, you should check the "yes" box in Block 20. of Form CSREES-2002 and complete Section C of Form CSREES-2008. In the event a project involving human subjects at risk is recommended for award, funds will be released only after the Institutional Review Board (IRB) has approved the research plan and CSREES has accepted documentation of the IRB approval. Please refer to the application forms for additional instructions.

**15. Certifications**

Note that by signing Form CSREES-2002 the applicant is providing the certifications required by 7 CFR Part 3017, regarding Debarment and Suspension and Drug-Free Workplace, and 7 CFR Part 3018, regarding Lobbying. The certification forms are included in the application package for informational purposes only. These forms should not be submitted with the application since by signing Form CSREES-2002 your organization is providing the required certifications. If the project will involve a subcontractor or consultant, the subcontractor/consultant should submit a Form AD-1048, Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion - Lower Tier Covered Transactions, to the grantee organization for retention in their records. This form should not be submitted with the application or to USDA.

**16. Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (Form CSREES-2006)**

As outlined in 7 CFR Part 3407 (the CSREES regulations implementing NEPA), the environmental data for any proposed project is to be provided to CSREES so that CSREES may determine whether any further action is needed. In some cases, however, the preparation of

environmental data may not be required. Certain categories of actions are excluded from the requirements of NEPA.

In order for CSREES to determine whether any further action is needed with respect to NEPA, pertinent information regarding the possible environmental impacts of a particular project is necessary; therefore, Form CSREES-2006, "NEPA Exclusions Form," must be included in the application indicating whether the applicant is of the opinion that the project falls within a categorical exclusion and the reasons therefore. If it is the applicant's opinion that the proposed project falls within the categorical exclusions, the specific exclusion(s) must be identified.

Even though a project may fall within the categorical exclusions, CSREES may determine that an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement is necessary for an activity, if substantial controversy on environmental grounds exists or if other extraordinary conditions or circumstances are present which may cause such activity to have a significant environmental effect.

### **C. Submission Dates and Times**

Applications for research projects must be received by close of business (COB) on December 2, 2003 (5:00 p.m. Pacific Time). Applications for extension projects and joint research-extension projects must be received by COB on December 16, 2003 (5:00 p.m. Pacific Time). Applications received after the applicable deadline will not be considered for funding.

### **D. Funding Restrictions**

CSREES has determined that grant funds awarded under this authority may not be used for the renovation or refurbishment of research, education, or extension space; the purchase or installation of fixed equipment in such space; or the planning, repair, rehabilitation, acquisition, or construction of buildings or facilities.

Pursuant to Section 1473 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1997 (91 Stat. 981), indirect costs are unallowable costs under Section 2(c)(1)(B) projects and Section 3(d) of the Smith-Lever funded projects, and no funds will be approved for this purpose. Costs that are a part of the institution's indirect cost pool may not be reclassified as direct costs for the purpose of making them allowable.

### **E. Other Submission Requirements**

#### **1. What to Submit**

The original and ten (10) copies of each application must be submitted. All copies of the applications must be submitted in one package. No application will be considered for funding if: (a) it violates stated page limits or other specified format parameters such as line spacing; (b) the proposed budget exceeds budget maximums; (c) the application does not include the required authorizing signatures; or (d) the complete application is not received by the applicable deadline.

#### **2. Where to Submit**

The address for applications submitted via the U.S. Postal Service, express mail, or overnight courier is:

Dr. Nick C. Toscano

Grants Manager, W-IPM  
Department of Entomology  
3401 Watkins Drive  
University of California  
Riverside, CA 92521

Telephone: (909) 787-5826

The receipt of all applications will be acknowledged by e-mail. Therefore, applicants are strongly encouraged to provide accurate e-mail addresses, where designated, on Form CSREES-2002. If the applicant's e-mail address is not indicated, W-IPM will acknowledge receipt of the application by letter. Applicants who do not receive an acknowledgment within 60 days of the submission deadline, should contact the W-IPM Grants Manager. Once the application has been assigned an application number, applicants should cite that number on all future correspondence.

## **PART V—APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION**

### **A. General**

Subsection (c)(5) of the Competitive, Special, and Facilities Research Grant Act (7 U.S.C. § 450i(c)), as amended by Section 212 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998, (7 U.S.C. 450i(c)(5)) requires grantees to arrange for scientific peer review of their proposed research activities and merit review of their proposed extension and education activities in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Secretary prior to the Secretary making a grant award under this authority. Review by the grantee is not automatically required for renewal or supplemental grants as defined in 7 CFR 3400.6. A subsequent grant award will require a new review if, according to CSREES, the funded project has changed significantly, other scientific discoveries have affected the project, or the need for the project has changed. Note that a new review is necessary when applying for another standard or continuation grant after expiration of the grant term. The application review process conducted by the W-IPM fulfills the scientific peer review and merit review requirements. Additional reviews are not necessary.

Scientific peer review is an evaluation of a proposed project for technical quality and relevance to regional or national goals performed by experts with the scientific knowledge and technical skills to conduct the proposed research work. Peer reviewers may be selected from an applicant organization or from outside the organization, but shall not include principals, collaborators or others involved in the preparation of the application under review.

Merit review is an evaluation of a proposed project or elements of a proposed program whereby the technical quality and relevance to regional or national goals are assessed. The merit review shall be performed by peers and other individuals with expertise appropriate to evaluate the proposed project. Merit reviewers may not include principals, collaborators or others involved in the preparation of the application under review.

### **B. Evaluation Criteria**

Applications will be reviewed, evaluated, scored, and ranked during January 2004 by a peer review panel consisting of scientists who represent the research and extension areas addressed and who have not submitted applications for support on the proposed activity. Reviewers may be from other regions. Reviewers from within the region will not review applications submitted from their institution. The review panel will consist of members from the pest management disciplines (entomology, nematology, plant pathology, and weed science) and an appropriate mix of scientists from production disciplines. The W-IPM Grants Manager will convey peer scores and recommendations including funding levels and project periods to a subcommittee of Western Regional Experiment Station Directors and/or State Extension Directors for review, concurrence and submission to CSREES.

Reviewers will evaluate applications based on the following criteria:

1. Importance and significance of the pest/production problem(s) and relevance of the application to the development of a successful IPM program (Weight: 20 points);
2. Suitability of objectives, design, and methodology (Weight: 30 points);

3. Degree of interdisciplinary collaboration, including collaboration among research, extension, private consultants, industry, and the user community. The feasibility of increasing IPM implementation as a result of the project (Weight: 20 points);
4. Suitability of strategy/process to evaluate the success of the project, including milestones, developed by the IPM implementation team (Weight: 10 points);
5. Appropriateness of the budget (Weight: 10 points);
6. Professional competence of the project team (Weight: 5 points); and
7. Adherence to the application guidelines (Weight: 5 points).

### **C. Conflicts of Interest and Confidentiality**

During the peer evaluation process, extreme care will be taken to prevent any actual or perceived conflicts of interest that may impact review or evaluation. For the purpose of determining conflicts of interest, the academic and administrative autonomy of an institution shall be determined by reference to the current Higher Education Directory, published by Higher Education Publications, Inc., 6400 Arlington Boulevard, Suite 648, Falls Church, Virginia 22042. Phone: (703) 532-2300. Web site: <http://www.hepinc.com>.

Names of submitting institutions and individuals, as well as application content and peer evaluations, will be kept confidential, except to those involved in the review process, to the extent permitted by law. In addition, the identities of peer reviewers will remain confidential throughout the entire review process. Therefore, the names of the reviewers will not be released to applicants.

## **PART VI—AWARD ADMINISTRATION**

### **A. General**

Within the limit of funds available for such purpose, the awarding official of CSREES shall make grants to those responsible, eligible applicants whose applications are judged most meritorious under the procedures set forth in this RFA. The date specified by the awarding official of CSREES as the effective date of the grant shall be no later than September 30 of the Federal fiscal year in which the project is approved for support and funds are appropriated for such purpose, unless otherwise permitted by law. It should be noted that the project need not be initiated on the grant effective date, but as soon thereafter as practical so project goals may be attained within the funded project period. All funds granted by CSREES under this RFA shall be expended solely for the purpose for which the funds are granted in accordance with the approved application and budget, the regulations, the terms and conditions of the award, the applicable Federal cost principles, and the Department's assistance regulations (parts 3015 and 3019 of 7 CFR). NOTE: CRIS Forms AD-416 "Research Work Unit/Project Description-Research Resume" and AD-417 "Research Work Unit/Project Description-Classification of Research", apply only to the P.L. 89-106 funds and will be requested if an application is identified for funding.

### **B. Organizational Management Information**

Specific management information relating to an applicant shall be submitted on a one-time basis as part of the responsibility determination prior to the award of a grant identified under this RFA, if such information has not been provided previously under this or another CSREES program. CSREES will provide copies of forms recommended for use in fulfilling these requirements as part of the preaward process. Although an applicant may be eligible based on its status as one of these entities, there are factors which may exclude an applicant from receiving Federal financial and nonfinancial assistance and benefits under this program (e.g., debarment or suspension of an individual involved or a determination that an applicant is not responsible based on submitted organizational management information).

### **C. Award Notice**

The grant award document shall include at a minimum the following:

1. Legal name and address of performing organization or institution to whom the Administrator has awarded a grant under the terms of this request for applications;
2. Title of project;
3. Name(s) and institution(s) of PDs chosen to direct and control approved activities;
4. Identifying grant number assigned by the Department;
5. Project period, specifying the amount of time the Department intends to support the project without requiring recompetition for funds;
6. Total amount of Departmental financial assistance approved by the Administrator during the project period;
7. Legal authority(ies) under which the grant is awarded;

8. Appropriate Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number;
9. Approved budget plan for categorizing allocable project funds to accomplish the stated purpose of the grant award; and
10. Other information or provisions deemed necessary by CSREES to carry out its respective granting activities or to accomplish the purpose of a particular grant.

#### **D. Administrative and National Policy Requirements**

Several Federal statutes and regulations apply to grant applications considered for review and to project grants awarded under this program. These include, but are not limited to:

7 CFR Part 1, subpart A—USDA implementation of the Freedom of Information Act.

7 CFR Part 3—USDA implementation of OMB Circular No. A-129 regarding debt collection.

7 CFR Part 15, subpart A—USDA implementation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended.

7 CFR Part 3015—USDA Uniform Federal Assistance Regulations, implementing OMB directives (i.e., OMB Circular Nos. A-21 and A-122) and incorporating provisions of 31 U.S.C. 6301-6308 (formerly the Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act of 1977, Pub. L. No. 95-224), as well as general policy requirements applicable to recipients of Departmental financial assistance.

7 CFR Part 3017—USDA implementation of Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants).

7 CFR Part 3018--USDA implementation of Restrictions on Lobbying. Imposes prohibitions and requirements for disclosure and certification related to lobbying on recipients of Federal contracts, grants, cooperative agreements, and loans.

7 CFR Part 3019—USDA implementation of OMB Circular A-110, Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Other Agreements With Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Other Nonprofit Organizations.

7 CFR Part 3052—USDA implementation of OMB Circular No. A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-profit Organizations.

7 CFR Part 3407—CSREES procedures to implement the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended.

29 U.S.C. 794 (section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973) and 7 CFR Part 15b (USDA implementation of statute)— prohibiting discrimination based upon physical or mental handicap in Federally assisted programs.

35 U.S.C. 200 et seq.—Bayh-Dole Act, controlling allocation of rights to inventions made by employees of small business firms and domestic nonprofit organizations, including universities, in Federally assisted programs (implementing regulations are contained in 37 CFR Part 401).

#### **E. Expected Program Outputs and Reporting Requirements**

In addition to the reporting requirements identified in CSREES' Terms and Conditions (which is part of the award package), successful applicants will be required to provide annual written

progress reports and a final report to the W-IPM Grants Manager. PDs are required to acknowledge CSREES and the W-IPM in all publications or other products that result from funds that are awarded. Reprints or copies of all publications would be appreciated.



## **PART VII—PROGRAM CONTACT**

Applicants and other interested parties are encouraged to contact Dr. Nick C. Toscano; Grants Manager, Western Region IPM Grants Program; Department of Entomology; 3401 Watkins Drive; University of California; Riverside, CA 92521; Telephone: (909) 787-5826; E-mail: [nick.toscano@ucr.edu](mailto:nick.toscano@ucr.edu).

## **PART VIII—OTHER INFORMATION**

### **A. Access to Review Information**

Copies of reviews, not including the identity of reviewers, and a summary of the panel comments will be sent to the applicant PD after the review process has been completed.

### **B. Use of Funds; Changes**

#### **1. Delegation of Fiscal Responsibility**

Unless the terms and conditions of the grant state otherwise, the grantee may not in whole or in part delegate or transfer to another person, institution, or organization the responsibility for use or expenditure of grant funds.

#### **2. Changes in Project Plans**

(a) The permissible changes by the grantee, PD(s), or other key project personnel in the approved project grant shall be limited to changes in methodology, techniques, or other similar aspects of the project to expedite achievement of the project's approved goals. If the grantee or the PD(s) is uncertain as to whether a change complies with this provision, the question must be referred to the Authorized Departmental Officer (ADO) for a final determination. The ADO is the signatory of the award document, not the program contact.

(b) Changes in approved goals or objectives shall be requested by the grantee and approved in writing by the ADO prior to effecting such changes. In no event shall requests for such changes be approved which are outside the scope of the original approved project.

(c) Changes in approved project leadership or the replacement or reassignment of other key project personnel shall be requested by the grantee and approved in writing by the ADO prior to effecting such changes.

(d) Transfers of actual performance of the substantive programmatic work in whole or in part and provisions for payment of funds, whether or not Federal funds are involved, shall be requested by the grantee and approved in writing by the ADO prior to effecting such transfers, unless prescribed otherwise in the terms and conditions of the grant.

(e) Changes in Project Period: The project period may be extended by CSREES without additional financial support, for such additional period(s) as the ADO determines may be necessary to complete or fulfill the purposes of an approved project, but in no case shall the total project period exceed five years. Any extension of time shall be conditioned upon prior request by the grantee and approval in writing by the ADO, unless prescribed otherwise in the terms and conditions of a grant.

(f) Changes in Approved Budget: Changes in an approved budget must be requested by the grantee and approved in writing by the ADO prior to instituting such changes if the revision will involve transfers or expenditures of amounts requiring prior approval as set forth in the applicable Federal cost principles, Departmental regulations, or grant award.

### **C. Confidential Aspects of Applications and Awards**

When an application results in a grant, it becomes a part of the record of CSREES transactions, available to the public upon specific request. Information that the Secretary determines to be of a confidential, privileged, or proprietary nature will be held in confidence to the extent permitted by law. Therefore, any information that the applicant wishes to have considered as confidential, privileged or proprietary should be clearly marked within the application. The original copy of an application that does not result in a grant will be retained by the Agency for a period of one year. Other copies will be destroyed. Such an application will be released only with the consent of the applicant or to the extent required by law. An application may be withdrawn at any time prior to the final action thereon.

#### **D. Regulatory Information**

For the reasons set forth in the final Rule-related Notice to 7 CFR part 3015, subpart V (48 FR 29114, June 24, 1983), this program is excluded from the scope of the Executive Order 12372 which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials. Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 35), the collection of information requirements contained in this Notice have been approved under OMB Document No. 0524-0039.